

## Message Text

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44

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EB-07 SCS-03 SCA-01 L-03 H-02 CIAE-00

DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-01 USIA-06 PRS-01 SP-02

DEAE-00 SNM-02 CG-00 DOTE-00 COME-00 JUSE-00 TRSE-00

EUR-12 ARAE-00 /058 W

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P 291938Z JUL 76

FM AMEMBASSY BOGOTA

TO AMEMBASSY MEXICO PRIORITY

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 6431

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE BOGOTA 7654

MEXICO FOR CUSTOMS ATTACHE

EMO. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OGEN, CO

SUBJECT: MOTOR VESSEL "EA"

REF: MEXICO 9516

MEDELLIN TELEX NO. 10 OF JULY 28 REPEATED AS FOLLOWS:

QUOTE DR. RODRIGO JIMENEZ, MANAGER OF UNION DE BANANEROS DE  
URABA (UNIBAN) HAS INFORMED US AS FOLLOWS:

1) UNIBAN SHIPS BANANAS FROM TURBO TO TWO FLORIDA CUSTOMERS:  
PARKER BANANA COMPANY, A U.S. FIRM BASED IN TAMPA, AND  
TURBANA BANANA, A SUBSIDIARY OF UNIBAN, IN CORAL GABLES."

2) THE VESSEL "EA" DEPARTED TURBO FOR TAMPA ON JUNE 11.  
ON JUNE 17, IT WAS SEIZED BY TAMPA CUSTOMS OFFICIALS,  
BECAUSE OF COCAINE CONTRABAND, "EA" IS OWNED BY  
DAMMERS AND VAN DER GHEDE, BOOMPJES 17, ROTTERDAM,  
NETHERLANDS, AND IS UNER UNIBAN CHARTER, LIBIAN FLAG."

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3) THE VESSEL " SIRARA" WAS SEIZED BY TAMPA CUSTOMS

ON JULY 16, WHEN TWENTY POUNDS OF COCAINE WERE FOUND ABOARD. THE SHIP HAS BEEN RELEASED. IT IS CHARTERED FROM THE SAME DUTCH FIRM, UNDER THE LIBIAN FLAG."

4) TURBO AUTHORITIES ARE SUPPOSEDLY CONTINUING A PROGRAM OF STRINGENT CONTROLS. WHEN A UNIBAN SHIP ARRIVES IN TURBO, IT IS INSPECTED BY TWO CUSTOMS OFFICIALS AND MAINTAINED UNDER CONTINUOUS CUSTOMS GUARD WHILE IN PORT. DAS AND F-2 PERSONNEL (SECRET POLICE) ARE ALSO CONTINUOUSLY PRESENT. ALL LOADING IS WATCHED BY PERSONNEL OF ALL THREE ORGANIZATIONS. VIGILANCE IS STRICT WHILE IN PORT, BUT POSSIBILITY EXISTS THAT AFTER LEAVING PORT AND WHILE STILL CRUISING THE GULF OF URABA, A SMALL CRAFT COULD COME ALONGSIDE AND EFFECT A TRANSFER OF CONTRABAND  
END QUOTE  
DREXLER

NOTE BY OC/T: REFTTEL NOT SENT DEPARTMENT.

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## Message Attributes

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**Concepts:** n/a  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 29 JUL 1976  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** CunninFX  
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**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
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**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
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